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December 21, 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bowen et al. Date: December 21, 2004

Serial No.: To be assigned Docket No.: CH920010059US1

Filed : Herewith

For: LOAD BALANCING IN DATA NETWORKS

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please process this Preliminary Amendment to the claims prior to calculating the fees for this application.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: